

TPs – Wednesday, February 16, 2022

Ottawa

- As of 11am today, there are approximately 400-450 trucks in the downtown core, and limited visible demonstrators on the Hill and on Wellington street.
- There are indications that Ottawa may see an increase in supporters coming from other locations in the coming days.
- Open sources indicate that a supply convoy, which departed Fort McMurray, AB yesterday, is set to converge in Ottawa on Friday, with supplies for protesters collected along its route. I can tell you that our plan is to stop that convoy at the Manitoba/Ontario Border.
- The RCMP continues to provide around-the-clock support and assistance to the Ottawa Police Service, who continue to hold the operational lead and jurisdiction in regards to the ongoing demonstrations in Ottawa.
- RCMP members stationed in the NCR are being leveraged. Members from National Divisions as well as Divisions in Ontario and Quebec are also deployed. The exact number will fluctuate based on identified need and any operational developments.
- The RCMP is closely monitoring the situation and we are in a constant state of preparedness, with scalable resources available as and when needed.
- The RCMP is also providing operational support via its National Capital Region Command Centre, which enables efficient and real-time operational coordination between all NCR law enforcement and security partners.
- We continue to protect all designated protectees, and have securely escorted any parliamentarians wanting support to attend/depart the Hill.

Windsor

- I'm pleased to report that in Windsor, there is currently no protest situation blocking traffic to the Ambassador Bridge.

- Police continue to move convoy supporters away from the area.
- Law enforcement presence and patrols will remain high in the region for the foreseeable future.
 - 50 members deployed to Windsor to help ensure the roadways around the bridge remain clear.

Other Areas:

- I also wish to report that the stolen firearms from a Peterborough tractor-trailer were successfully recovered by York Regional police, and the investigation is ongoing.

Operational details and the NCR Plan:

- Following the announcement of Chief Sloly's resignation, the dynamic of the trilateral command structure between the OPP, OPS, and RCMP; changed right away. I am pleased to report that we have a fulsome integrated approach for directing operations that are running very smoothly.
- There is an assessment taking place this afternoon as to whether further public clarity will be needed regarding this Integrated Command Centre, or ICC. Media will be engaged for a press release if the assessment suggests it is needed.
- The officers on the ground are very pleased with the streamlined direction from the ICC.
- To give you a bit more context regarding the plan in the NCR, I will go over its three phases, and offer the current status.
- This strategic plan was initially to take between 3 to 5 days to implement, however presently, the plan is being expedited to between 12 and 48 hours, so Ottawa will see law enforcement's actions in getting this city back for its citizens and businesses as soon as possible, under the necessary precautions of public safety.
- The first phase, is stabilization, which includes preparations to take control, and the Communications component for our PLT units to get the heightened messaging out that now has a more serious tone to leave or face serious consequences.

- A formal notice was developed and has been handed to protesters downtown, which outlines the Federal Emergency Measures Act, regarding the restricted zones, and the ability to seize vehicles, and, the Ontario laws of the same nature, which further prohibits other interference with critical infrastructure and series-400 highways, and the revocation of driver's licenses, as examples.
- Part of this stabilization plan, as noted, is to prepare to take control, and that means, creating and blocking off the interdiction zone to prevent entry and exit, also referred to as the 'no-go' area. This is actively being prepared today, overnight, and into tomorrow.
- The Second phase of the plan is the action phase. This is to take place no sooner than Friday. It is very important to note that once the officers initiate the action phase, that they cannot stop until everything and everyone is safely secured.
- The OPP have obtained the necessary towing needs for Ottawa.
- Between the RCMP, OPP, and OPS, and support from other POJ and the SQ, there are 14 public order units that will be deployed in support of the action phase, in addition to the regular uniformed officers in rotation.
- Please note that 400 more officers from the OPP have been arriving since last night, and will be at the ready come tomorrow. The RCMP is still committed to its 250 resources, but has also reached out across the country to free up even more support.
- In addition, the Ontario Chiefs of police have been liaising with other police forces have been asked to possibly offer more help should we need it. Some are offering assistance voluntarily.
- The third phase of the plan is the clean up phase, moving on, and getting our city back to a place of normalcy for everyone.
- The timing of this plan is very strategic in nature, and I am confident in our forces, and on how this plan is unfolding.
- I do not see this weekend being anywhere like the last three after these enforcement actions take place.
- Thank you.

